

REMARKS

The Status of the Claims.

Claims 73 to 86 are pending with entry of this amendment, claims 1 to 72 being cancelled and claims 73 to 86 being added herein. These amendments introduce no new matter and support for the amendments is replete throughout the specification. These amendments are made without prejudice and are not to be construed as abandonment of the previously claimed subject matter or agreement with any objection or rejection of record.

With respect to claims 73 through 86, support can be found throughout the specification. For example, in Figure 9A, a flowing suspension of cells is depicted contacting a flowing stream of dye at an intersection of channels followed by monitoring of a signal from the dye at a detector. In addition, Figure 9A depicts introduction of a sample, which can contain a modulatory composition, flowing to contact the cells.

Support for independent claim 73 is found throughout the specification. For example, support for "flowing a suspension of cells in a microchannel" is found in the Membrane Preparations section starting at page 19, line 15; at page 6, line 23; page 29, line 8; page 30, line 30; and elsewhere. Support for "flowing a dye into the flowing cell suspension" is found, e.g., at page 6, line 10; page 9, line 29; and page 45, line 6. Support for "incubating the cells and dye in the microchannel ... for association of the dye and ... cells" is found, e.g., in Figure 1; page 5, line 25; page 8, line 29; and page 12, line 13. Support for "monitoring the detectable signal" is found, e.g., in the Detection section starting at page 35, line 13; at page 9, line 29; and page 5, line 25.

Support for claim 74, e.g., regarding electroosmotic flow or pressure-based flow, is found, e.g., in the paragraph starting at page 28, line 24.

Support for claim 75, e.g., regarding microfluidic devices, is found, e.g., in Figures 5, 6, and 7; at page 8, line 33; page 26, line 28; and page 27, line 30.

Support for claim 76, e.g., regarding cell types, is found, e.g., at page 8, line 20.

Support for claim 77, e.g., regarding introduction of the dye into the microchannel through a side channel intersection, is found, e.g., in Figure 9A; page 29, line 35; page 30, line 30; and page 38, line 25.

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Support for claims 78 and 79, e.g., regarding the time interval between cell/dye contact and detection, is found, e.g., at page 7, line 29; and page 44, line 9.

Support for claim 80, e.g., regarding cell/dye association by dye uptake, is found, e.g., in Figure 1; and at page 17, line 19.

Support for claim 81, e.g., regarding cell numbers, is found, e.g., at page 45, line 34.

Support for claim 82, e.g., regarding claimed dyes, is found, e.g., at page 7, line 34.

Support for claim 83, e.g., regarding contacting the cell suspensions with modulatory compositions, is found, e.g., in Figure 4; page 7, line 16; and page 38, line 25.

Support for claim 84, e.g., regarding types of modulatory compositions, is found, e.g., at page 7, line 16.

Support for claim 85, e.g., regarding types of detectable signals associated with cell responses, is found, e.g., in the paragraph starting at page 26, line 7; at page 8 line 30; page 11, line 21; page 35, line 14; and page 36, line 31.

Support for claim 86, e.g., regarding types of cell responses, is found, e.g., in Figure 1; at page 13, line 21; page 16, line 10; and page 43, line 21.

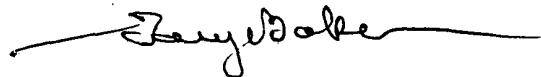
Applicants submit that no new matter has been added to the application by way of the above Amendment. Accordingly, entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 510-769-3510.

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Respectfully submitted,



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